Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Notice of Comment Period and Public Hearing Concerning the Proposed Issuance of a Construction Permit/PSD Approval to LaFarge Corporation in Joppa

LaFarge Corporation, 12950 Worldgate Drive, Herndon, Virginia, has applied for an air pollution control construction permit, pursuant to 35 IAC Part 201, from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Division of Air Pollution Control to expand its cement manufacturing facility located at 2500 Portland Road in Grand Chain. The expansion would include two new kilns, two finish mills, two clinker storage silos, and a new rail cement loadout facility, and changes to other operations to increase cement production. The Illinois EPA has made a preliminary determination to issue a permit for the project and has prepared a draft permit for review. The Illinois EPA is holding a public comment period and a hearing to accept comments from the public on the proposed issuance of a permit for this project, prior to making a final decision on the application.

The Illinois EPA Bureau of Air will hold a public hearing on June 7, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the City of Metropolis Community Center, 516 Market Street in Metropolis.

The hearing will be held to receive comments and answer questions from the public prior to making a final decision concerning the application. The hearing will be held under the Illinois EPA's "Procedures for Permit and Closure Plans," 35 IAC 166, Subpart A. Lengthy comments and questions should be submitted in writing. Requests for interpreters (including sign language) must be made by May 19, 2006. Any questions about hearing procedures or requests to address special needs should be made to the Illinois EPA, Hearing Officer, Re: LaFarge Hearing, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276, 217/782-5544.

Written comments must sent to the Hearing Officer and be postmarked by midnight, July 7, 2006, unless otherwise specified by the Hearing Officer. Written comments need not be notarized.

Persons wanting more information may obtain copies of the draft permit, and project summary at www.epa.gov/region5/air/permits/ilonline.htm (please look under All Permit Records, PSD, New). These documents and the application can also be viewed at the Metropolis Public Library, 317 Metropolis Street, Metropolis, or at the Illinois EPA's offices at 2309 W. Main, Marion, 618/993-7200 and 1340 North Ninth St., Springfield, 217/782-7027 (for either Illinois EPA location please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you).

For information or requests about the application or draft permit, please contact: Brad Frost, Community Relations, Illinois EPA, 1021 N. Grand Ave. E., P.O. Box 19506, Springfield, IL 62794-9506, 217/782-2113 or 217/782-9143 TDD.

This project is considered a major project under the federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) rules, 40 CFR 52.21, for emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), with permitted annual emissions of 2,913 tons.

Under the PSD rules, LaFarge must use Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for emissions of CO. The Pre-heater/pre-calciner kilns will utilize good combustion practices as BACT for control of CO emissions. Illinois EPA's initial review concludes that these proposed measures will provide BACT.

LaFarge has submitted an air quality impact analysis for this project for emissions of CO pursuant to the PSD rules showing that it will not cause a violation of the ambient air quality standards or applicable PSD increments. The air quality impact analysis showed that maximum predicted impacts were below significant impact levels set under the PSD rules.